

**MINUTES OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY**  
**TENANT-LANDLORD COMMISSION**

April 17, 2008

Fairfax County Government Center  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, Virginia 22035  
Conference Room #9  
Chair Liff, presiding

Attendees:

Commissioners: Geier-Smith, Kocsis, McRae,  
Rosier, Liff, Gomez

Absentees:

Abo

Staff Attending:

Michael S. Liberman, Director  
Cable Communications and Consumer  
Protection  
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief  
Consumer Affairs  
Vee Johnson, Staff Liaison  
Consumer Affairs Branch

Guests:

Pat Petro, Community Health & Safety Section  
Environmental Health Division  
Dave Reidenbach, Chief, Regulation &  
Licensing Division

The meeting was called to order at 7:35p.m. by Chair Liff.

**Minutes**

The March 20, 2008, minutes were approved.

**Reports**

- Chair Liff thanked the Commissioners for their attendance.
- **Committee reports** - There were no Committee reports.

## **Staff reports**

- The first TLC Outreach event is scheduled for Monday, May 19, 2008, in partnership with Reston Interfaith Housing Corporation. Details about the presentation will be provided at the May 15, 2008, meeting.
- Liaison Johnson reviewed the TLC calendar. Commissioners' availability and activities will be updated monthly.
- Celebrate Fairfax! is from June 6th\_8th, 2008. Commissioners were offered the opportunity to volunteer at the Consumer Affairs' tent to promote the Commission. Commissioner Geier-Smith shared her experience from last year. The Commissioners will consider this opportunity and discuss at the May meeting.
- Liaison Johnson discussed the March 24, 2008, memo presented to the Board of Supervisors in March by County Executive Griffin regarding the impact on families or individuals displaced due to code enforcement actions. Liaison Johnson informed that Julienne Barbazette, supervisor of Coordinated Services Planning and Sarah Allen, the Regional Community Developer for the Department of Systems Management, Region 4, for Human Services, provide resources and support for tenants displaced because of unsafe or life threatening conditions identified by the Strike Team. Based on the information provided, the Commissioners do not desire a presentation or more information on this issue at this time.
- There were no questions or comments regarding the statistical reports.

## **Commission Matters**

- The attendance record for 2008 was circulated and approved.
- There are currently three vacancies, one landlord, one citizen, and one tenant.

## **Old Business**

### 1. Tenant-Landlord program for Cable Channel 16

- The Channel 16 Advisory Committee did not have a report.
- The Consumer Focus program on repairs and maintenance continues to be aired on Channel16.
- The Tenant-Landlord Commission Brochure was discussed. Commissioner Koscis asked why all suggestions offered for inclusion in the brochure were not incorporated. Staff offered insight into information selected for the brochure; Detailed information is available in the Tenant-Landlord handbook currently available on the Consumer Affairs' Web Site. The Commissioners would like to review and discuss future revised documents during scheduled meetings before they are finalized, so any suggested changes can be discussed. Chief Jones informed that the brochure will be placed on the Web Site and translated into Spanish.

## **New Business**

1. Presentation by the Fairfax County Health Department, Division of Environmental Health, Community Health and Safety Section
  - Pat Petro, Senior Environmental Health Specialist provided an overview of the services provided by the divisions of the Health Department. The public health services available to the Fairfax community were discussed and brochures about issues that affect tenants as well as all Fairfax County residents were provided.
  
2. Presentation by Dave Reidenbach, Chief, Regulation and Licensing Division
  - The towing code amendments that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors were reviewed by Chief Reidenbach. Questions were answered. By unanimous vote, the Commissioners offered support for the current amendments. Chief Reidenbach will keep the Commissioners informed of future changes or revisions.
  
3. Speakers for upcoming meetings
  - Liaison Johnson identified the Supervisors on the Housing & Community Development Committee. Catherine Hudgins is Chairman and John Foust is Vice-Chairman. The Commissioners would like to invite them to a fall meeting, maybe September or October. A preferred month will be discussed later.
  - Director Liberman suggested that the Human Rights Commission be invited to provide an update about Fair Housing laws at an upcoming Commission meeting. An invitation will be extended for the June 19, 2008, meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 p.m.